

Appl. No. 10/581,474
Amendment dated 06/27/2008
Reply to Office Action of 3/28/2008

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Remarks

Claims 1, 3, 6, and 10 remain in the application.

Claim 1 has been amended to require components E and F be present.

Claim 1 also been amended to better define the fluorocarbon elastomer. Support for this amendment is found in [0036] of the specification.

Claim Objections

Claim 7 was objected to because of an informality.

Claim 7 has been canceled.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1 – 13 were rejected as being unpatentable over Gornowicz (U.S. 6,015,858).

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, and 11-13 were rejected as being unpatentable over Zama et al. (U.S. 4,942,202).

Applicant has amended claim 1 to further require the presence of components E and F. Claim 1 has also been amended to limit the fluorocarbon elastomer to those having a glass transition temperature less than 23°C.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as amended define an invention which is unobvious over either Gornowicz or Zama. Applicant believes neither Gornowicz or Zama teach or suggest all the limitation of the present claims.

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Obviousness-type Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-8 and 11-13 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4, 8-14, 18 and 20-22 of US 7,173,092.

Applicant submits herein a Terminal Disclaimer under 37 CFR 1.20(d) to overcome this rejection.

The present response is being submitted within the three-month shortened statutory period for response to the outstanding Office Action. Applicant authorizes the USPTO to charge deposit account 04-1520 for any fees that should be necessary to maintain the pendency of the application.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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